IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO./ CUSTOMER NO.
10/714,765	17 November 2003	Salvatore J. Puleo Sr.	NATREE 3.1-004US 39428

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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

In the Claims, please cancel claims 14 and 19 and cancel claim 20 as provided below:

1-11 (Previously Cancelled).

12-14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently Amended) A stand comprising:

a support system for supporting said stand;

a shell coupled to said support system, said shell including an inner volume for housing electrical components; and

a cover disposed atop said shell, said cover including an inner volume in contact with said inner volume of said shell, said cover extending beyond a lateral surface of said shell such that said cover has at least one hole disposed on said cover, said hole providing ventilation between said inner volume of said shell through said inner volume of said cover and out to an outside environment, said cover including a receptacle configured to hold a fiber-optic decoration;

an access door disposed on said shell for accessing said electrical components within said inner volume of said shell; said access door including a safety mechanism that prevents said access door from being opened when electrical power is applied to said electrical components; ~~The stand according to claim 14 wherein~~ said safety mechanism is an electrical access opening for accepting an electrical plug, said access door being prevented from opening to enable access to said electrical components when said electrical plug is inserted into said electrical access opening.

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16. (Cancelled).

17. (Currently Amended) A stand comprising:

a support system for supporting said stand;

a shell coupled to said support system, said shell including an inner volume for housing electrical components; and

a cover disposed atop said shell, said cover including an inner volume in contact with said inner volume of said shell, said cover extending beyond a lateral surface of said shell such that said cover has at least one hole disposed on said cover, said hole providing ventilation between said inner volume of said shell through said inner volume of said cover and out to an outside environment, said cover including a receptacle configured to hold a fiber-optic decoration;

an access door disposed on said shell for accessing said electrical components within said inner volume of said shell; said access door including a safety mechanism that prevents said access door from being opened when electrical power is applied to said electrical components; ~~The stand according to claim 14 wherein~~ said safety mechanism is an electrical lock that locks said access door, said access door being prevented from opening to enable access to said electrical equipment when power is applied to said electrical components.

18. -20. (Canceled)

21. (Presently Amended) A stand comprising:

a receptacle for holding a fiber-optic holiday decoration;

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an access door disposed on said stand for accessing electrical components within an inner volume of said stand and a safety mechanism that prevents said access door from being opened when electrical power is applied to said electrical components ~~The stand according to claim 19~~ wherein said safety mechanism is an electrical access opening for accepting an electrical plug, said access door being prevented from opening to enable access to said electrical components when said electrical plug is inserted into said electrical access opening.

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Previously Added) The stand according to claim ~~19~~ 21 wherein said safety mechanism is an electrical lock that locks said access door, said access door being prevented from opening to enable access to said electrical equipment when power is applied to said electrical components.

24. -27. (Cancelled)